

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CARACAS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: 15-071

OPEN TO: *All Interested Candidates / All Sources*

POSITION: *Agricultural Specialist*

OPENING DATE: *December 17, 2015*

CLOSING DATE: *January 07, 2016*

WORK HOURS: *Full-time, 40 hours/week*

SALARY: *Ordinarily Resident (OR): FSN-11
Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR): FP-04
Final grade/step for NORs will be determined by Washington.

ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT (OR) APPLICANTS (See Appendix A for definition) MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The U.S. Mission in *Caracas, Venezuela* is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the position of *Agricultural Specialist*.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

Assists the Agricultural Attaché in developing post's agricultural country plan. Plans, oversees, and participates in the full range of agricultural research, reporting, trade promotion, technological exchange (if present), and related activities in a program of broad scope and complexity. Recommends solutions to agricultural policy problems between the U.S. and host country, assists the Agricultural Attaché in discussions and negotiations with host government officials. Develops and maintains contacts with senior host government officials and with public and private sector officials. Serves as a professional advisor and senior LE Staff assistant.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

Applicants must address each required qualification listed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not qualified. "Applicants applying for Vacancy Announcement (VA) 15-071 will be considered for VA 15-071T. Therefore, applicants need only apply for one of these two VAs to be considered."

1. EDUCATION: *A Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts Degree in Agricultural Economics, Agronomy or Veterinary Sciences, Biotechnology, Economics, or Business Administration is required.*

2. **EXPERIENCE:** *At least seven years of progressively responsible experience in the field of agricultural economics, with an emphasis in analyzing and interpreting data, and presenting findings in comprehensive written form. Minimum of one year of supervisory experience is required.*

3. **LANGUAGE:** *Level IV (Fluent) Speaking/Reading/Writing of Spanish is required. Level IV (Fluent) Speaking/Reading/Writing of English is required. (This will be tested.)*

4. **SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** *Able to develop and maintain an extensive range of contacts with the staffs of senior level decision-makers in the host-government and private sector. Able to interrelate agricultural developments to broader host country political, economic, and sociological forces. Able to plan, organize, and monitor a comprehensive reporting program. Able to prepare well crafted, factual, and analytical reports forecasting trends or changes in agriculture. Able to maintain objectivity when providing professional advice and recommendations.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: The complete position description listing all of the duties and responsibilities may be obtained by contacting the Human Resources Office.

SELECTION PROCESS: When qualified, applicants who are U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Members (USEFMs) and/or preference-eligible U.S. Veterans are given a preference in hiring. Therefore, it is essential that these applicants make themselves known as having a hiring preference and specifically address the required qualifications above in their application.

HIRING PREFERENCE ORDER:

- (1) USEFM who is ALSO a preference-eligible U.S. Veteran
- (2) USEFM OR a preference-eligible U.S. Veteran
- (3) FS on LWOP

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Management may consider the following when determining successful candidacy: nepotism, conflicts of interest, budget, and residency status.
2. Current OR employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply. Current OR employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report (EPR) are not eligible to apply.
3. Current NOR employees hired on a Family Member Appointment (FMA) or a Personal Service Agreement (PSA) are not eligible to apply within the first 90 calendar days of their employment, unless they have a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.
4. The candidate must be able to obtain and hold a security clearance

HOW TO APPLY: Applicants must submit the following documents to be considered:

1. Universal Application for Employment (UAE) ([Form DS-174](#)), which is available on our website or by contacting Human Resources. (See “For Further Information” above); and
2. Any additional documentation that supports or addresses the requirements listed above (e.g. transcripts, degrees, etc.)

IMPORTANT: Applicants claiming a U.S. Veteran’s preference must submit written documentation confirming eligibility (e.g., Member Copy 4 of Form DD-214, Letter from the Veteran’s Administration, or certification documenting eligibility under the VOW Act with an expected discharge no later than 120 days after the certification is submitted) by the closing date of the vacancy announcement. If the written documentation confirming eligibility is not received in the HR office by the closing date of the vacancy announcement, the U.S. Veteran’s preference will not be considered in the application process. Specific criteria for receiving a U.S. Veteran’s preference may be found in HR/OE’s Family Member Employment Policy (FMEP).

WHERE TO APPLY:

Human Resources Office: HR Office, 3rd floor Embassy of the United States of America, calle F con calle Suapure, Colinas de Valle Arriba, Edif. Embajada de los Estados Unidos. Caracas 1080, Venezuela. The application must come in a sealed envelope properly identified with name, position, and date.

E-mail Address: HRCaracas@state.gov

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs. The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.

Appendix A - DEFINITIONS

Eligible Family Member (EFM): An EFM for employment purposes is defined an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen or not a U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610); **or**
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term “child” shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchild, adopted child, and a child under legal guardianship of employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner when such child is expected to be under legal guardianship until 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian; **or**

- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support; **or**
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; **and**
- Is under chief of mission authority.

U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM): A USEFM is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) of the sponsoring employee; **or**
- Child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and resides at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad, or as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and is under chief of mission authority; **or**
- resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2; **or**
- Currently receives a U.S. Government retirement annuity or pension from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service or Civil Service.

Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM): An AEFM is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) of the sponsoring employee; **or**
- Child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT); **and**
- Is under chief of mission authority; **and**
- Is residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; **and**
- Does NOT currently receive a U.S. Government retirement annuity or pension from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service or Civil Service.

Member of Household (MOH): A MOH is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria.

- A MOH is someone who accompanies or joins a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and
- A MOH must be officially declared to the COM by the sponsoring employee as part of his/her household; and
- A MOH is under COM authority;
- A MOH may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative, or adult child;
- A MOH may or may not be a U.S. Citizen;
- A MOH is **not** an EFM;
- A MOH is **not** listed on the travel orders or approved Form F-126 of a sponsoring employee.

Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR) – An individual who meets the following criteria:

- An EFM, USEFM or AEFM of a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed abroad, or as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
- Has diplomatic privileges and immunities; and
- Is eligible for compensation under the FS or GS salary schedule; and
- Has a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN); and
- Is not a citizen of the host country; and
- Does not ordinarily reside in the host country; and
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws.

Ordinarily Resident (OR) – An individual who meets the following criteria:

- A citizen of the host country; or
- A non-citizen of the host country (including a U.S. citizen or a third-country national) who is locally resident and has legal and/or permanent resident status within the host country and/or who is a holder of a non-diplomatic visa/work and/or residency permit; and/or
- Is subject to host country employment and tax laws.